

$$\frac{4\pi(n_{\text{silica}} - 1)A}{\lambda} = \pi + 2\pi n$$

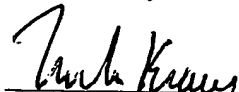
where A is the amplitude of the surface relief pattern, $n = 0, 1, 2, 3$, λ is the wavelength of the light used for writing (photoinducing) an index change in the optical medium and n_{silica} is the refractive index of the silica used in the mask at λ .

REMARKS

By the above preliminary amendment, claim 41 has been canceled since the equation therein inadvertently did not include a term and a corresponding new claim 42 with the equation being corrected has been presented.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (312.104331R00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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